

Kentucky Environmental Education Council
Council Meeting

July 25, 2003
Sheraton Four Points Hotel, Lexington, KY

Members present: Horace Brown, Robin Chandler, Wade Helm, Evelyn Morgan, Yvonne Meichtry, Kurt Mason, Frances Carter

Members not present: Greg Higdon, Jeff Hohman

Staff present: Jane Eller

Mr. Brown called the meeting to order and asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Ms. Carter made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Mason seconded that motion. Motion carried.

Budget- Mr. Brown then asked Ms. Eller to report on the budget. Ms. Eller informed the members that \$30,000 was added to the budget for FY 2004 from the General Fund. She thanked Secretaries Helm and Deluca for helping make this possible. These funds will be used for salary. Eastern Kentucky PRIDE will also reimburse KEEC \$12,000 for monies spent on the production of the water Units of Study in FY 02. This will give the Council about \$44,000 in additional funds for this year which will be used to support the development and implementation of the certification program as well as help pay for the environmental literacy survey we are required to do every five years..

Master Plan Revision- The next order of business concerns the Master Plan revision. There was a discussion on how to revise the Master Plan. Ms. Eller asked the Council if they wanted to use the same procedure they used to develop the Master Plan, which involved an open space meeting with 200 people, or focus groups around the state. She asked for the Council's input. Mr. Brown suggested reconvening the original Task Force and KEEC members to look at the plan, do the revisions, and update. A motion was made by Mr. Mason and seconded by Ms. Morgan to reconvene the Task Force and KEEC members to revise and update the plan. Ms. Eller suggested that be done in conjunction with the next Council meeting on October 23. Focus groups will then be invited to meetings around the state to provide input. Motion carried. Ms. Morgan also suggested taking part in a Round Table session at the KAEE Annual Conference. It would give KAEE members an opportunity to provide input for the Master Plan revision. All agreed.

Transition & Five Major Issues- The next topic for discussion was the upcoming transition to the new administration. Ms. Eller explained to the Council that she had been asked by Secretary Helm to develop a one-page transition document for the incoming administration. She gave the Council a document she had developed for review and comments. That document, with suggested changes from the Council, is attached.

Ms. Eller also said staff had been asked to present the top five issues currently facing the agency and environmental education in Kentucky. She asked the Council to help the staff think through this as well. That document, including recommended changes and additions made by Council members, is also attached.

Current Projects- Ms. Eller provided Council members with a list of current projects and asked if there were any questions on current projects. She said she did want to tell them that she had been invited to go before the Education Professional Standards Board to answer questions about our request that the EPSB create an endorsement in environmental education. That meeting is Sept. 22, 2003.

She also wanted to let members know that she will be attending the North American Association for Environmental Education in Alaska in October and will be a presenter in four sessions including the following.

- The Commonwealth Comprehensive Water Education Project
- Aligning the EE research agenda with the Leave No Child Behind research guidelines
- Creating a national vision for environmental education (along with other members of the EPA National Advisory Council)
- The Kentucky University Partnership for Environmental Education

Other Business- Ms. Eller wanted to inform the Council that each agency has been asked to revise their strategic plans to show performance objectives. KEEC will have to align our goals and plan to the Education, Arts & Humanities Cabinet's strategic plan. She said she is on the team to develop the Cabinet plan. We must devise a method to show how we measure success. She also updated the Council on the KUPPEE/KAEE/KEEC meeting that was held on July 8, 2003 at Berry Hill Mansion in Frankfort. The group discussed roles in EE in Kentucky. They looked at tasks and broke them down so the different boards meeting could discuss and decide what role they are willing to take in faculty development, certification and mentoring. That document is also attached.

Mr. Brown asked if there were any other issues to be discussed at this time. There were none.

Ms. Eller thanked the Council for their help and thoughtful input especially in creating the transition document. Mr. Brown adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be October 23, 2003 at Shaker town.